

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 CU-02 EB-07 OES-07
/094 W

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P R 241500Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4884
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6133

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV GE GW
SUBJ: FRG/GDR RELATIONS

REF: BERLIN 6030

1. ON MAY 20 CHARGE BRIEFED FRG PERMREP MEMBERS GAUS AND
BRAUTIGAM ON MAY 11 MEETING WITH GDR MFA WEST GERMAN SECTION
CHIEF SEIDEL. GAUS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BRIEFING, WHICH
APPARENTLY WAS GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH WHAT HIS PEOPLE HAVE
BEEN HEARING HERE FROM EAST GERMAN SOURCES.

2. GAUS DID NOTE WITH SOME INTEREST SEIDEL'S COMMENT THAT
GDR WAS PREPARED TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON BERLIN-HAMBURG AUTO-
BAHN. CHARGE STRESSED THAT SEIDEL MADE REFERENCE TO BEGINNING
DISCUSSIONS THIS YEAR, NOT ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT
MANPOWER AND MONEY WOULD KEEP THINGS FROM GOING TOO FAST.
GAUS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD, BUT STILL FOUND IT NOTEWORTHY THAT
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THE EAST GERMANS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO TALK.
APPARENTLY, THEY HAVE NOT DONE SO ON THIS PARTICULAR POINT
WITH THE WEST GERMANS
HERE. HE EXPRESSED CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DISAPPOINTMENT
THAT SEIDEL HAD STATED THAT WERE NOT INTERESTED IN
HAVING WEST GERMAN WORKERS TAKE PART IN POSSIBLE AUTO-
BAHN CONSTRUCTION WORK.

3. ON THE "COMPLICATED" MATTER OF ENERGY, GAUS SAID THE EAST GERMANS HAVE USED VIRTUALLY THE SAME FORMULATION WITH WEST GERMANS. HE ALSO TOOK PARTICULAR NOTE OF SEIDEL'S ASSERTION THAT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF AN FRG/GDR CULTURAL AGREEMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. ON WHEN THE SOUNDINGS MIGHT BEGIN, GAUS REITERATED THE HOPE THAT AN INITIAL KOHL-WISCHNEWSKI TALK COULD TAKE PLACE THIS WEEK, BEFORE THE THURSDAY BUNDESTAG DEBATE ON INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO FIRM DATE HAD BEEN SET. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE TENOR OF THE BUNDESTAG DEBATE AS WELL AS OF THE MID-JUNE CDU CONFERENCE IN WEST BERLIN COULD ADD AN UNNECESSARY COMPLICATION TO WISCHNEWSKI'S AS WELL AS HIS DEALINGS WITH THE EAST GERMANS.

5. IN A BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE MAY 23, IPW MEMBER KOSIN, WHO HAS BEEN FAIRLY RELIABLE ON INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS AND WHOSE INSTITUTE IS CONNECTED WITH THE SED CENTRAL COMMITTEE, ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SOUNDINGS COULD BEGIN IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. HE THOUGHT ANY DELAY WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO CONSTRUCTIVE WORK. IN A MORE SPECIFIC WAY THAN SEIDEL, KOSIN NOTED THAT WHILE THE GDR WAS INTERESTED IN SUCH "BASIC QUESTIONS" AS THE BORDER AND CITIZENSHIP, THEY WERE NOT INCLINED TO FANTASY. THEREFORE, IN VIEW OF THE KARLSRUHE DECISION AND THE FRG CONSTITUTION, THEY DID NOT EXPECT THE FRG TO MOVE ON THESE ISSUES. WHAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GDR WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, KOSIN ASSERTED, WOULD BE THE BEGINNING OF A MORE REALISTIC PUBLIC DISCUSSION IN THE FRG ON THESE ISSUES. POLANSKY

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